

# Montana Driver Education and Training

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## Vehicle Control in Limited Spaces



# Standards and Benchmarks

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## 1. Laws and Highway System

- a. know the laws outlined in the Montana Driver's manual
- b. understand the laws outlined in the Montana Driver's manual
- c. consistently demonstrate knowledge and understanding by responsible adherence to highway transportation system traffic laws and control devices

## 3. Visual Skills

- a. know proper visual skills for operating a motor vehicle
- b. communicate and explain proper visual skills for operating a motor vehicle
- c. demonstrate the use of proper visual skills for operating a motor vehicle
- d. develop habits and attitudes with regard to proper visual skills

## 4. Vehicle Control

- a. demonstrate smooth, safe and efficient operation of a motor vehicle
- b. develop habits and attitudes relative to safe, efficient and smooth vehicle operation.

## 5. Communication

- a. consistently communicate their driving intentions (i.e., use of lights, vehicle and personal signals)
- b. adjust their driver behavior based on observation of highway transportation system and other users
- c. adjust communication (i.e., use of lights, vehicle and personal signals) based on observation of highway transportation system and other users
- d. develop habits and attitudes relative to effective communication

## 6. Risk Management

- a. understand driver risk-management principles
- b. demonstrate driver risk-management strategies
- c. develop driver risk-management habits and attitudes

## 8. Driving Experience

- a. acquire at least the minimum number of BTW hours over at least the minimum number of days, as required by law, with a Montana approved driver education instructor



# TURNABOUT OPTIONS

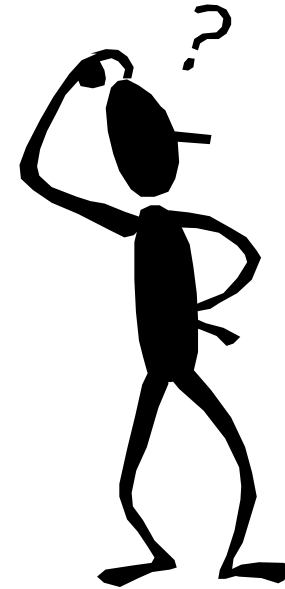
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## Consider the Options

Ask yourself: Is it needed? Legal? Safe?

### What are the turnabout choices?

- Go around the block
- Use a parking lot
- U-Turn
- Two-Point Turn
- Three-Point Turn



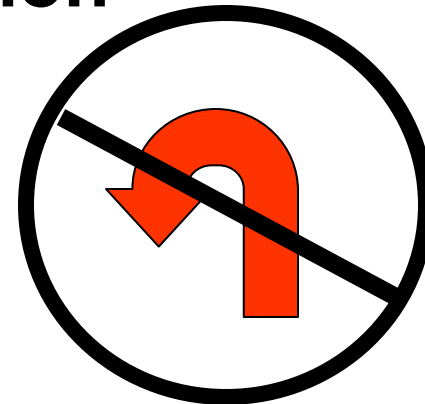
# TURNABOUT RESTRICTIONS

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**Drivers may not turn the vehicle around unless it can be done safely and without interfering with other traffic**

## Turnabouts are restricted when

- in a curve
- approaching or near a hill where you can't see 500 feet in either direction
- in a No Passing Zone



# Mid-Block U-Turn

## Ask these questions:

- How wide is the street?
- How much traffic is there?
- What is the turning radius of your vehicle?
- Is it legal?

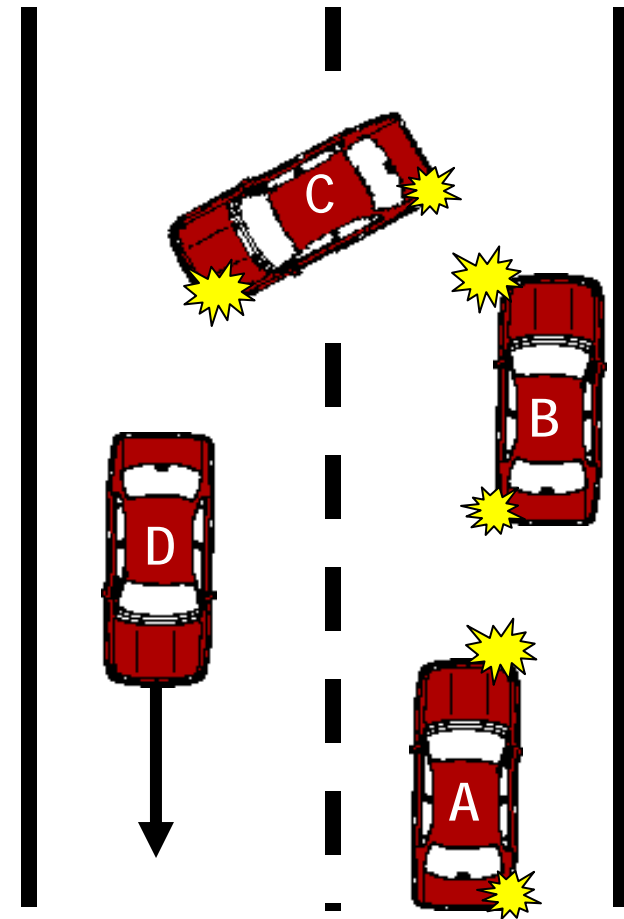
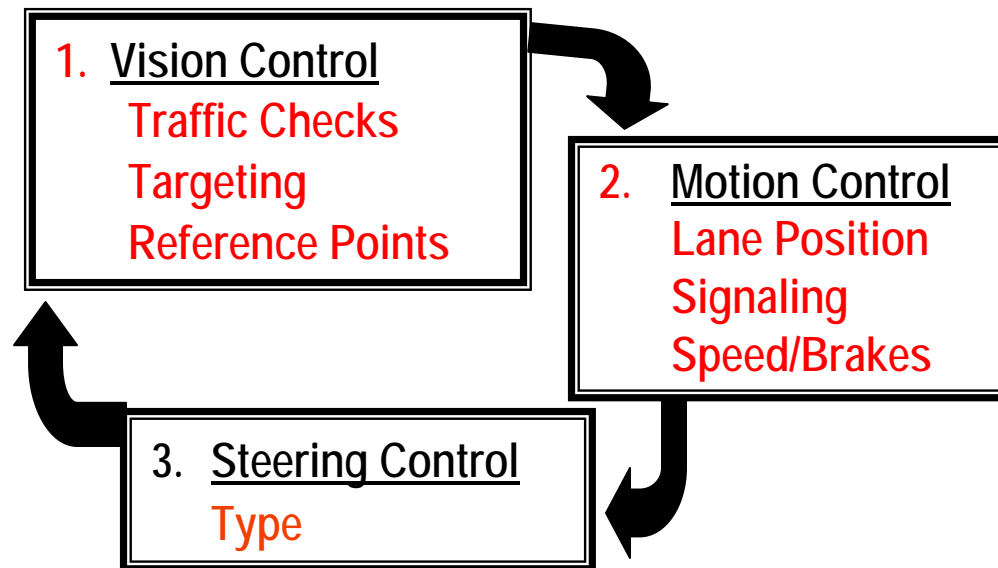


Is this a safe location and time for a U-Turn?



# Mid-Block U-Turn

Describe the **Good Habits** for a mid-block U-Turn



# Risky Behaviors For Mid-Block U-Turn

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- Failing to see 500 feet
- Failing to Signal
- Failing to check traffic
- Failing to get a safe gap
- Failing to turn head, look to new target
- Speed too fast or too slow
- Stopping unnecessarily



Linda McCulloch, Superintendent  
Montana Office of Public Instruction  
[www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov)

# Two-Point Turnabout – Backing to the Right

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Use this maneuver in a low-volume area with no legal restrictions for using a driveway or street

Advantage: drivers are able to reenter traffic by driving forward

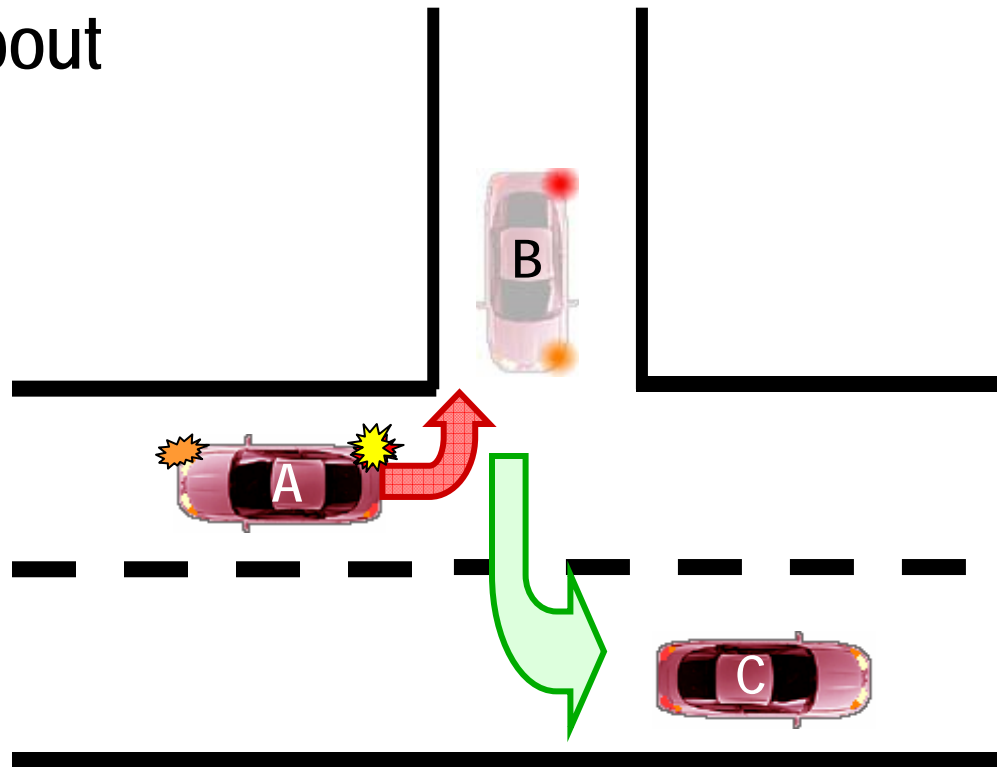
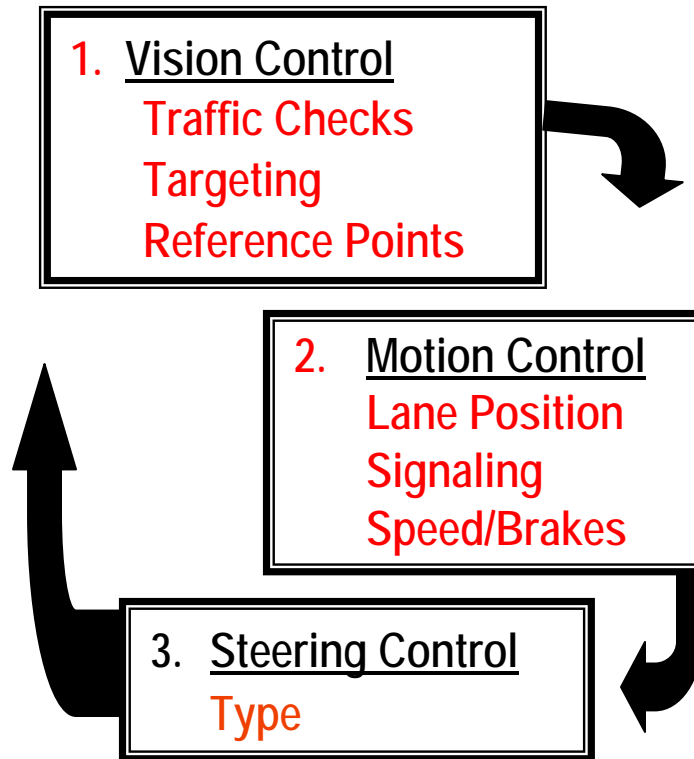
This is the safest maneuver from the right side of the road





# Two-Point Turnabout – Backing to the Right

Describe the **Good Habits**  
for a Two-Point Turnabout  
backing to the right



# Risky Behaviors for a Two-Point Turnabout Backing to the Right

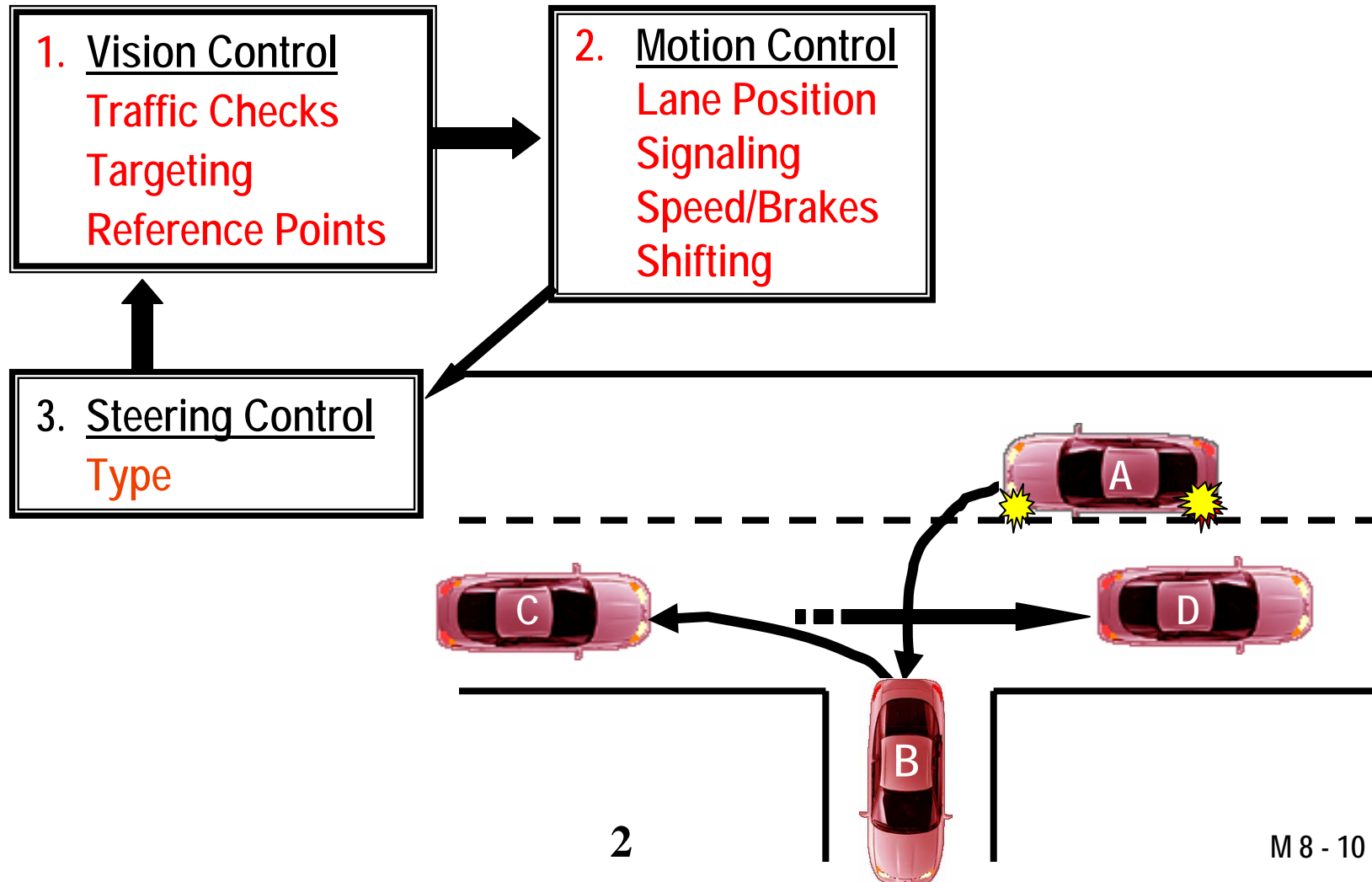


- Forgetting to move to LP3
- Forgetting to check traffic
- Forgetting to signal or early signal
- Forgetting to shift into reverse
- Improper use of steering wheel
- Forgetting to look back while backing until stopped
- Forgetting to see pivot point
- Forgetting to check front swing
- Forgetting to move completely off street
- Forgetting to shift into drive
- Excessive speed



# Two-Point Turnabout to the Left

Describe the **Good Habits** for a Two-Point Turnabout to the left



# Risky Behaviors for a Two-Point Turnabout to the Left



- Forgetting to check for clear LOS location
- Forgetting to check traffic, get safe gap
- Forgetting to signal, turning too slow
- Failure to move completely off the road
- Forgetting to shift into reverse, look back until stopped
- Insufficient, or too much wheel turning
- Excessive speed
- Failing to stay in lane
- Forgetting to shift into Drive



# Three-Point Turnabout

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The most hazardous turnabout

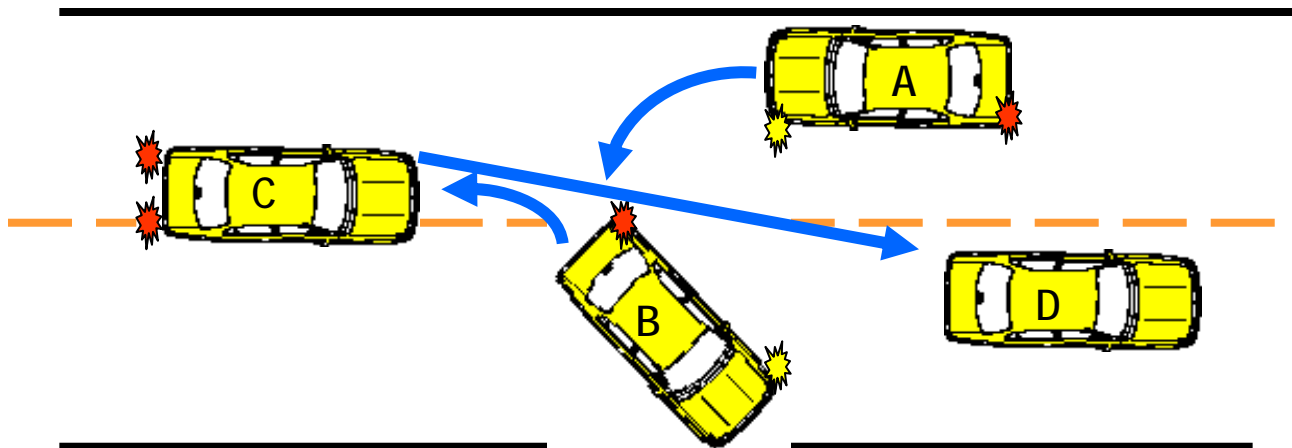
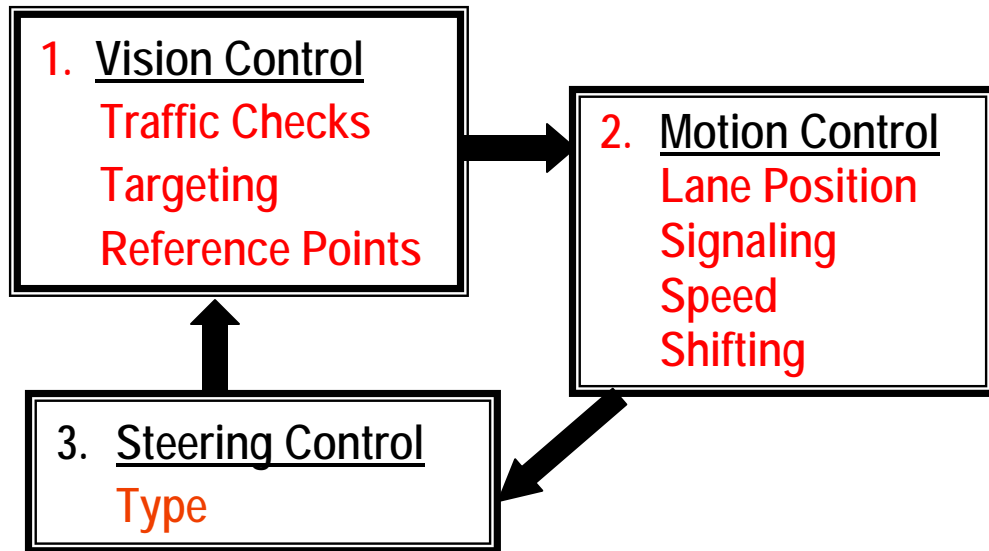
Consider if:

- a driveway/street is not available
- driving around the block is not an option
- available space is insufficient for another type of turnabout



# Three-Point Turnabout

Describe the  
**Good Habits** for  
turning the  
vehicle around in  
a Three-Point  
Turnabout



# Risky Behaviors for a Three-Point Turnabout



- Failure to signal and check traffic
- Failure to check traffic for safe gap
- Speed too fast or too slow
- Failure to look back while backing until stopped
- Turning steering wheel too slowly, resulting in insufficient steering
- Hitting the curb or dropping tires off roadway
- Forgetting to shift into Reverse, then Drive
- Completing the maneuver too slowly
- Failure to use reference points to maximize road space for turnabout



# Parking Strategies

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Parking is easier and safer if the following strategies are used:

- Look for a parking space with enough room for entering and exiting easily
- Observe and follow all signs and laws
- Be aware of other vehicles exiting parking spaces
- Avoid spaces at the end of parking lanes where being hit is more likely
- Avoid spaces near a large vehicle that may block the LOS
- Avoid spaces with a poorly parked vehicle on either side
- Turn head before turning the wheel to the target area





# Parking Strategies

**Leaving a parking space requires speed control, steering control, and accurate judgment of space**

- Search for traffic and pedestrians
- Communicate by signaling
- Move slowly
- Be aware of front or rear swing of the vehicle
- Gradually accelerate to driving speed
- Check rear zone





# Parking Laws

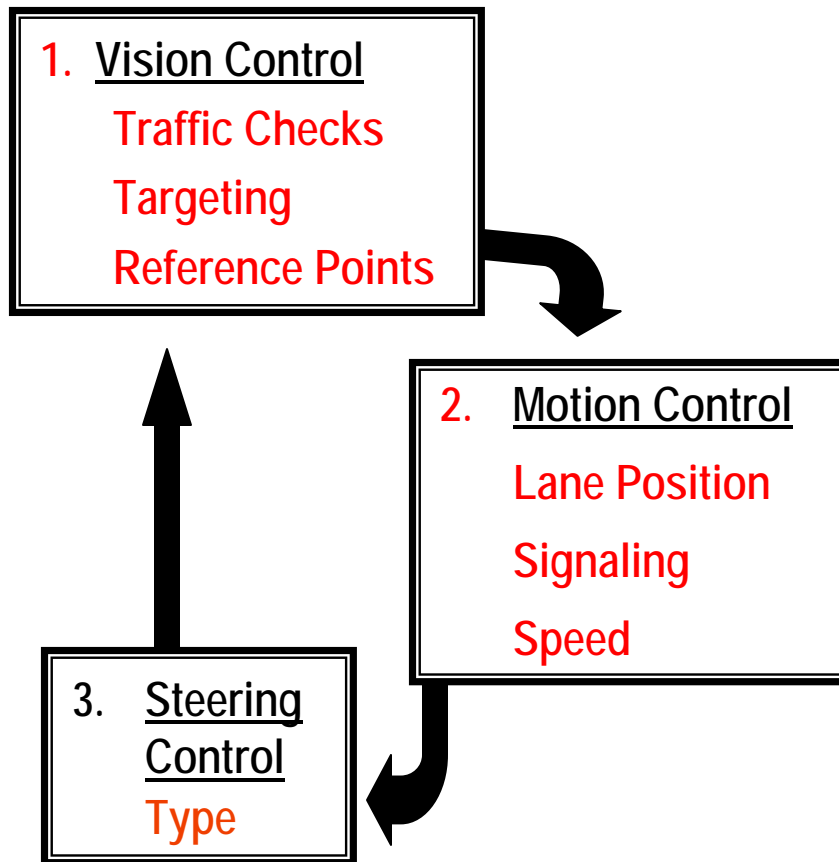


Parking is not permitted:

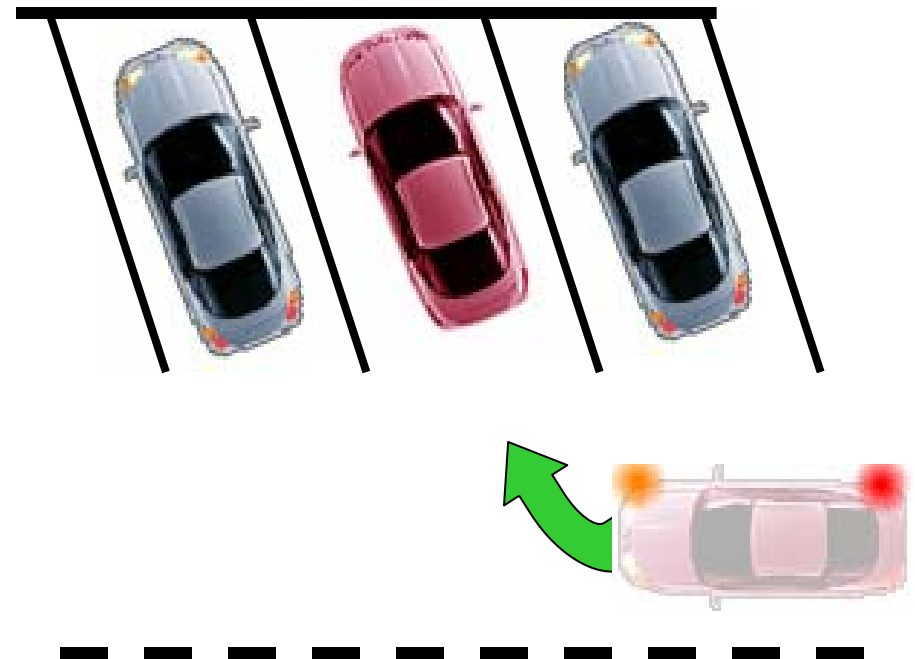
- On sidewalks
- On the street side of any parked vehicle known as “double parking”
- In intersections
- Within 50 feet of railroad tracks
- On bridges or overpasses
- In front of a driveway
- Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant
- Within 20 feet of a crosswalk
- Within 30 feet of a stop sign, yield sign, or traffic signal
- Within 20 feet of a fire station driveway
- On any controlled-access highway (freeway)
- Where prohibited by signs or a red, yellow, or white “no parking” curb
- In a handicapped parking area unless you have been given a handicap license plate or special card



# Entering Angle Parking



Describe the **Good Habits** for entering Angle Parking



# Risky Behaviors – Entering Angle Parking

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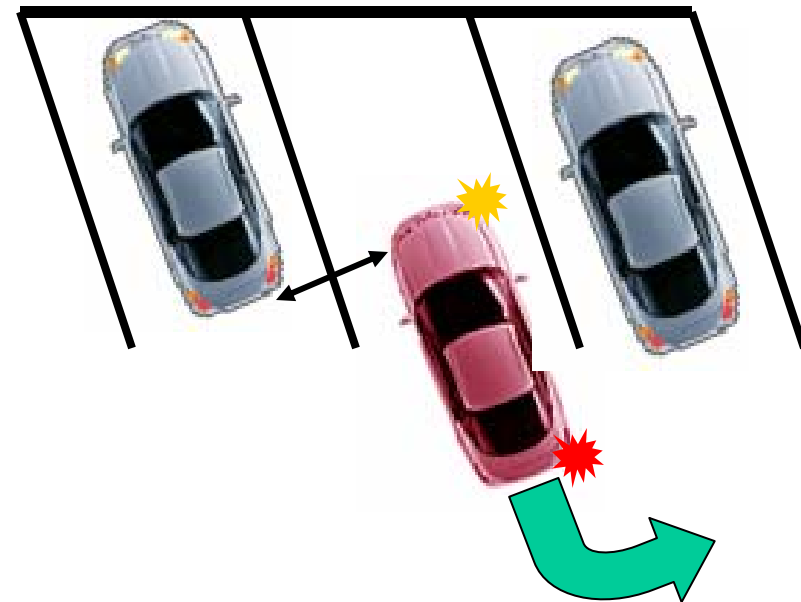
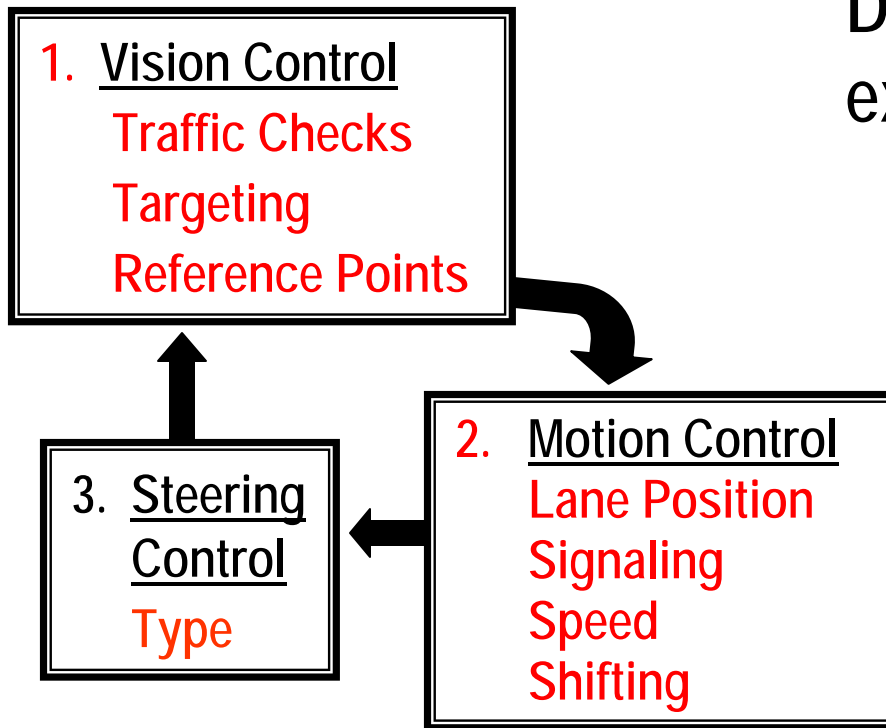


- Failure to check the rear zone
- Forgetting to signal
- Side position too close to parking space
- Speed too fast
- Steering insufficient or too slow
- Failure to target to center of the parking space
- Hitting curb due to incorrect forward reference point
- Forgetting to straighten wheels
- Parking too close to other vehicles
- Forgetting to set the parking brake



# Exiting Angle Parking

Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting Angle Parking



# Risky Behaviors - Exiting Angle Parking



- Failure to signal
- Failure to check the rear zone
- Failure to shift to Reverse
- Failure to release parking brake
- Speed too fast
- Steering too much, too little, too slow, too soon, or too late
- Failure to look back while backing until stopped
- Failure to check the front bumper swing
- Begins turning before bumper of the other vehicle is cleared
- Failure to straighten wheels after leaving parking space
- Failure to stop when the vehicle is straight
- Crosses into oncoming traffic while exiting
- Exits by driving forward and entering the next lane in the wrong direction in parking lots



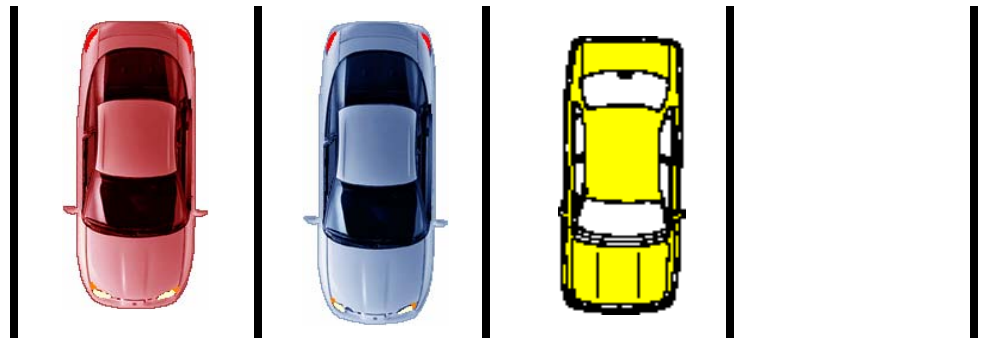
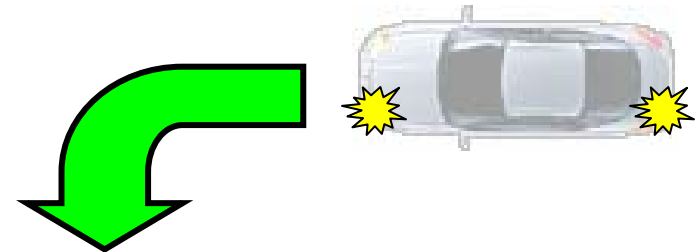
# Perpendicular Forward Parking

Describe the **Good Habits** for Perpendicular Forward Parking

1. Vision Control  
Traffic Checks  
Targeting  
Reference Points

2. Motion Control  
Lane Position  
Signaling  
Speed

3. Steering Control  
Type



# Risky Behaviors Perpendicular Forward Parking



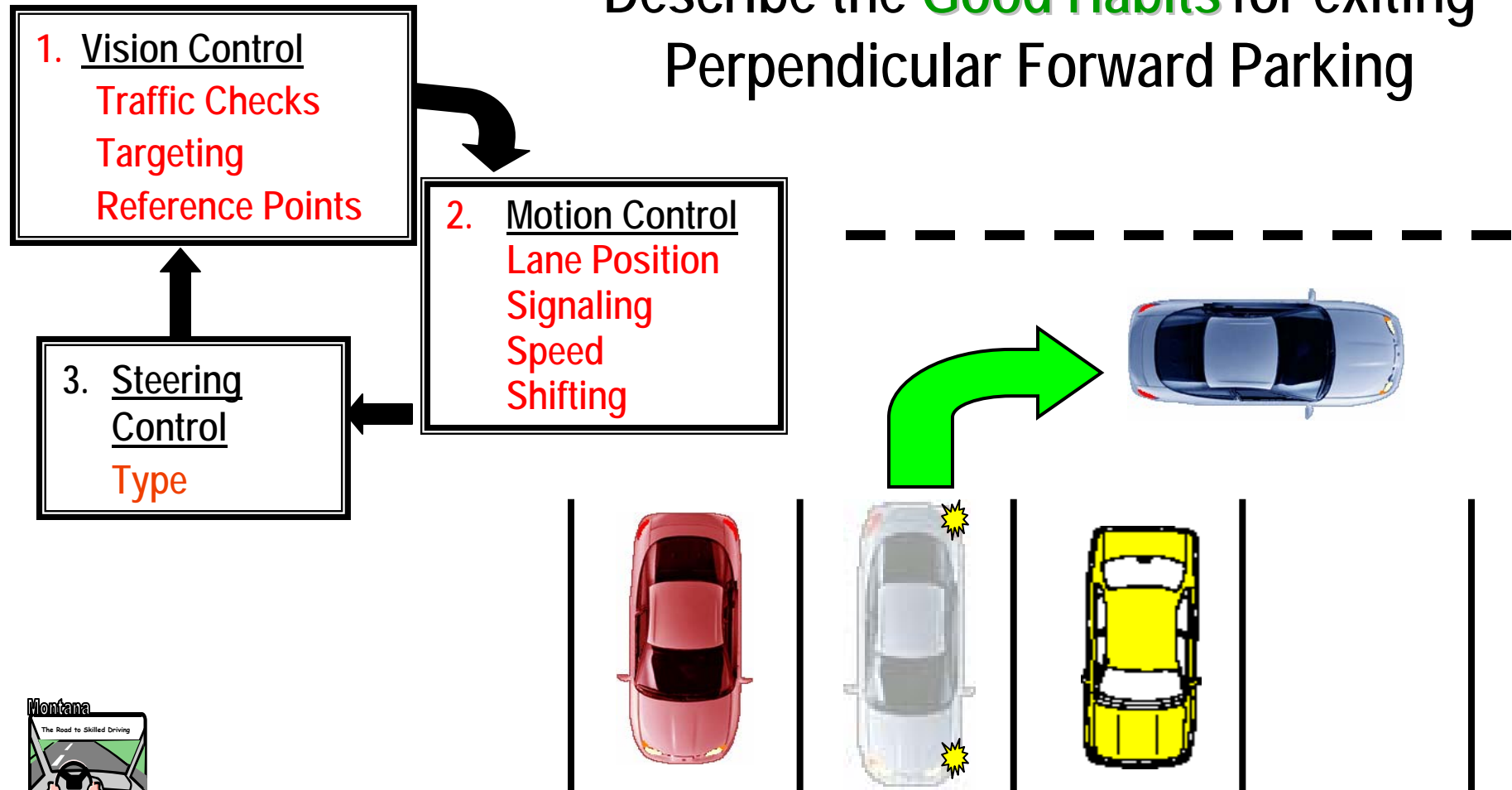
- Failure to signal on approach to parking space
- Failure to get sufficient space for turning
- Failure to turn quickly on entrance to space
- Speed too fast
- Failure to target center of parking space
- Failure to check for rear bumper clearance
- Failure to straighten wheels
- Failure to stop at forward reference point and hits curb
- Parks too close to other vehicles
- Failure to set parking brake





# Exiting Perpendicular Forward Parking

Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting Perpendicular Forward Parking



# Risky Behaviors Exiting Perpendicular Forward Parking



- Forgetting to signal
- Forgetting to shift into reverse
- Forgetting to release the parking brake
- Failure to check traffic and pedestrians
- Failure to check bumper clearance
- Begins turning too soon or too late
- Forgetting to look back while backing, until stopped
- Stops in oncoming lane of traffic
- Speed too fast



# Backing Into Perpendicular Parking

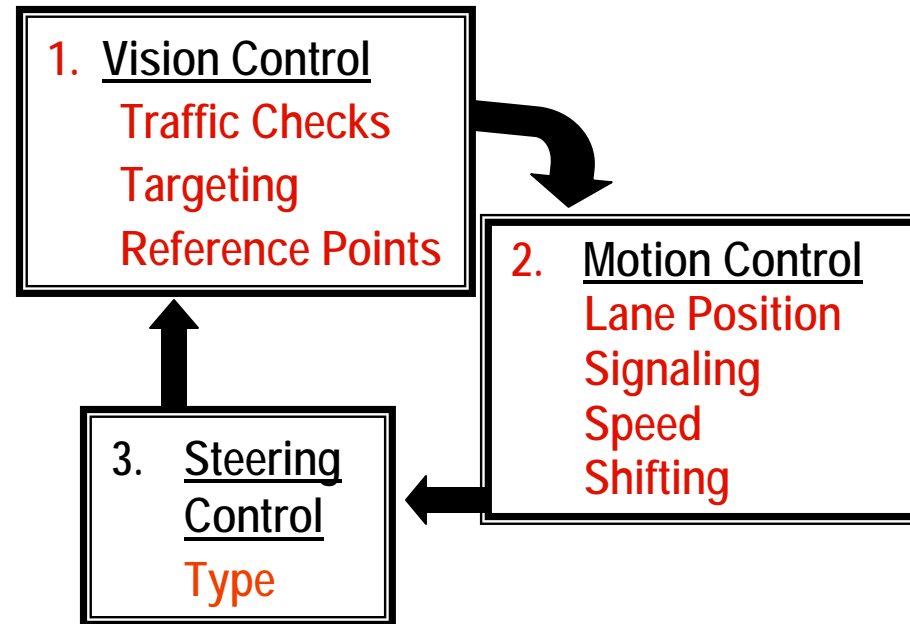
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## ADVANTAGES

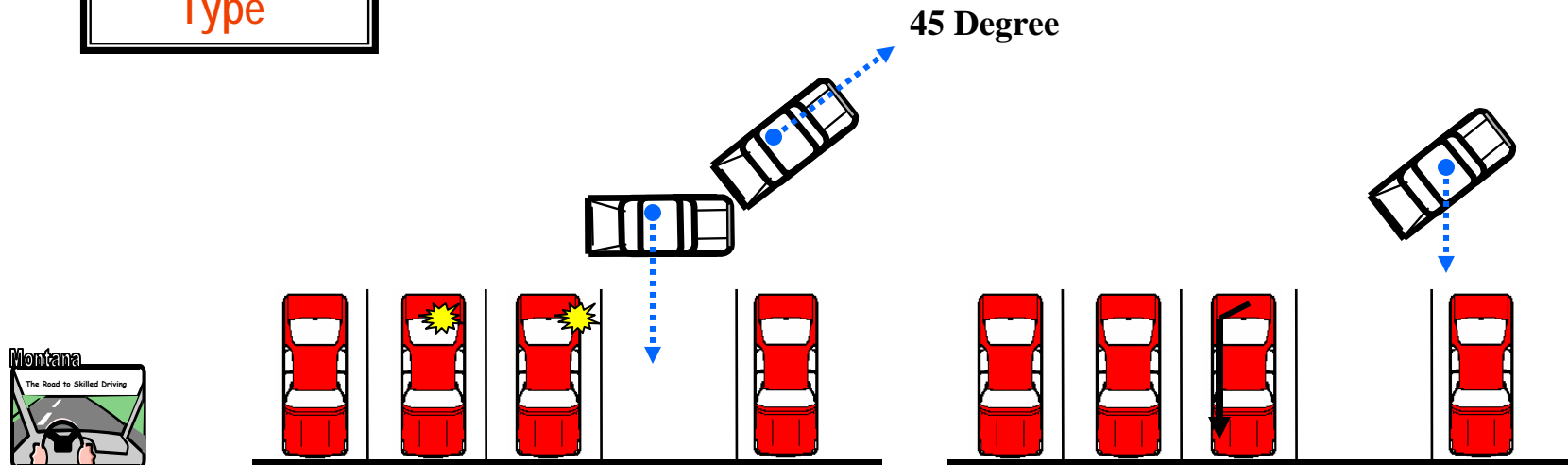
- It is easier to get in and out of tight parking spaces
- It takes less time to park and pull out of the space
- Provides a better view when leaving the space
- Avoids backing out into traffic
- More likely to be let into the traffic flow when exiting
- Reduced risk of hitting something or being hit
- Gives the best control and less stress



# Backing Into Perpendicular Parking



Describe the **Good Habits** for Backing into Perpendicular Parking



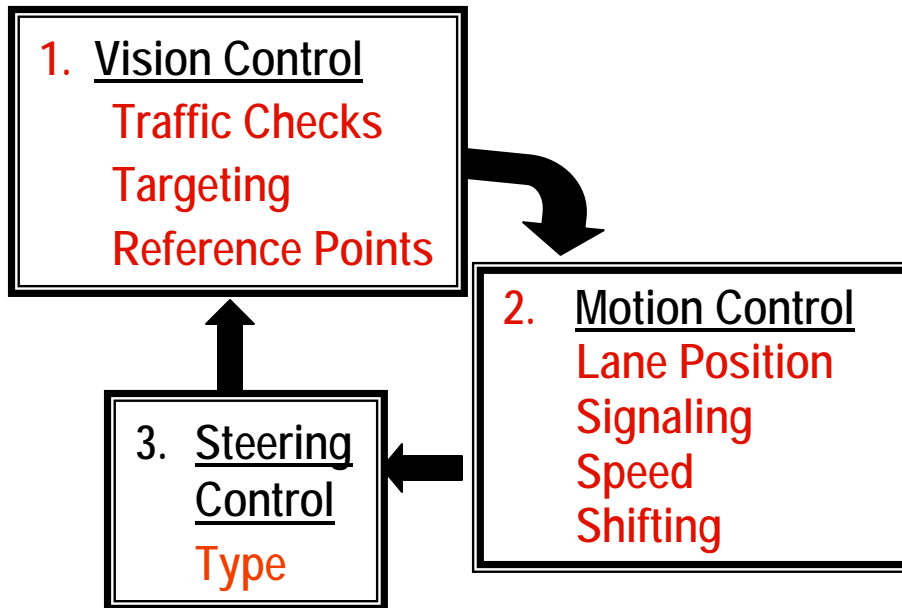
# Risky Behaviors Backing Into Perpendicular Parking



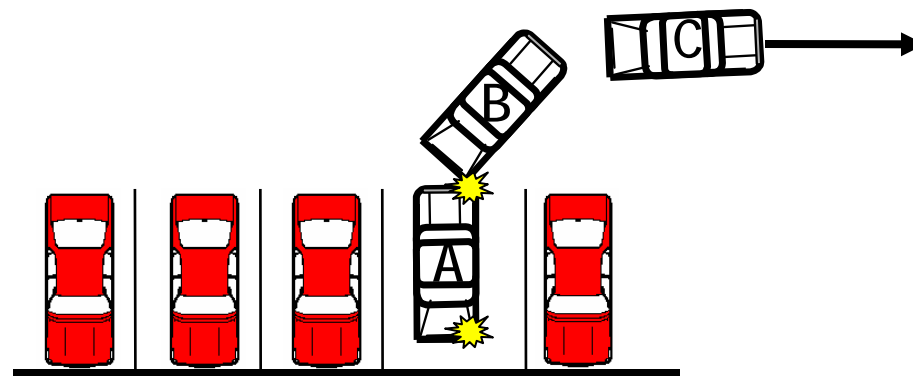
- Failure to signal and check for traffic and pedestrians
- Failure to approach and align to space correctly
- Speed too fast when turning to the 45-degree target
- Forgetting to shift into reverse
- Failing to look back while backing until stopped
- Speed too fast when backing
- Failure to identify and use pivot point
- Failure to turn quickly at pivot point
- Failure to straighten wheels and align in middle of space
- Failure to check rear reference point
- Failure to shift into "Park" and set Park Brake



# Exiting a Backing Into Perpendicular Parking



Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting a backing into Perpendicular Parking



# Risky Behaviors Exiting a Backing In Perpendicular Parking



This maneuver has the least amount of risk because the driver pulls forward into traffic

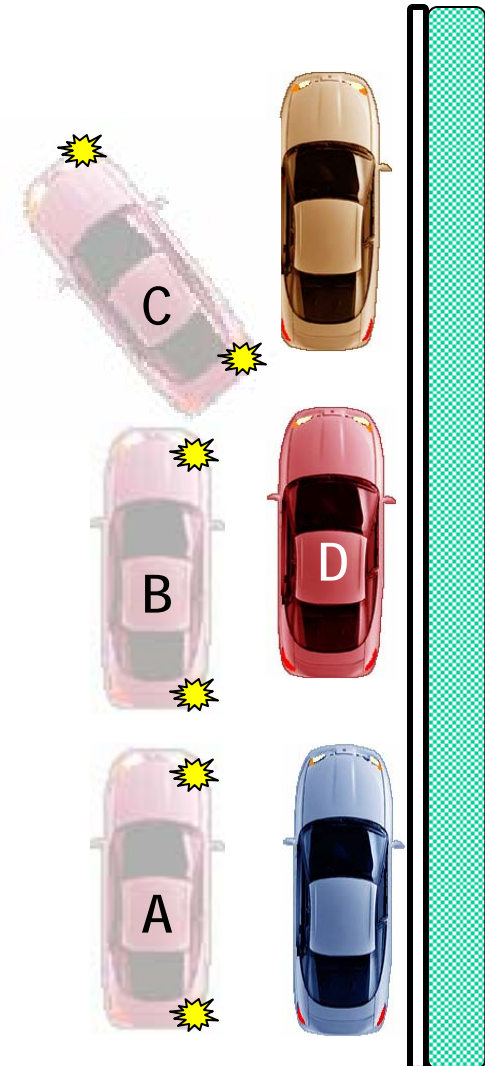
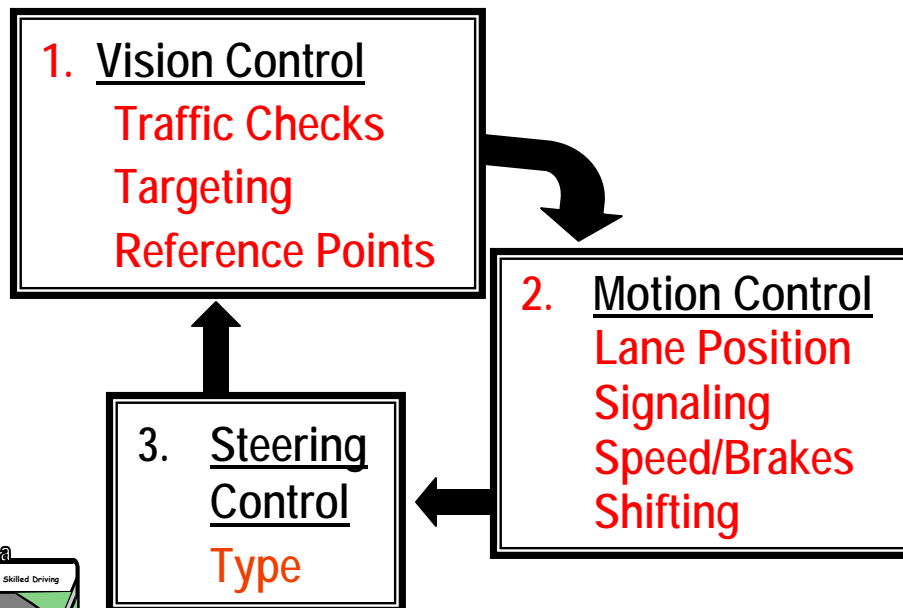
Be aware of these risky behaviors:

- Failure to signal and check for traffic and pedestrians
- Speed too fast while exiting
- Turning too soon or too late out of space
- Failure to see open zone to new target area



# Entering Parallel Parking

Describe the **Good Habits** for entering Parallel Parking





# Risky Behaviors When Entering Parallel Parking

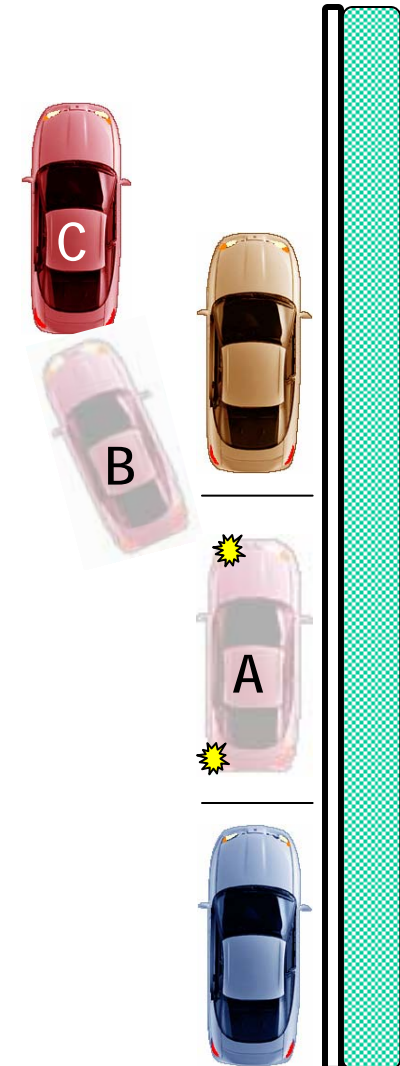
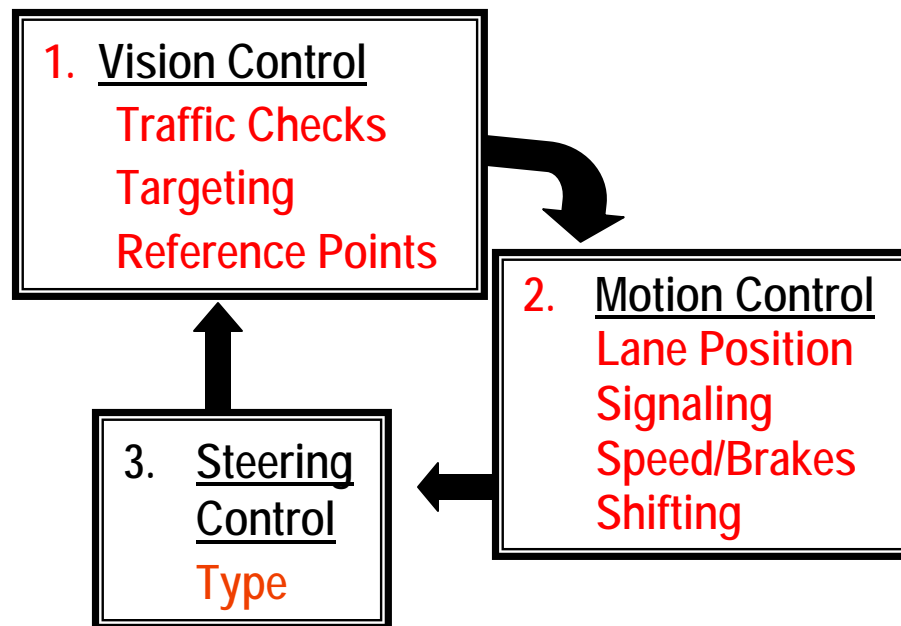


- Failure to signal
- Failure to check rearview mirror for traffic to the rear
- Failure to pause beside parallel parking space (chance to double check available space (size) and communicate to traffic behind, intention to parallel park
- Failure to align rear bumpers
- Stops too close or too far away from the vehicle in front of the space
- Forgets to shift to reverse
- Failure to obtain a 45 degree angle
- Failure to check outside mirror
- Failure to look back while backing
- Looks over wrong shoulder while backing
- Speed too fast while backing
- Failure to turn wheel fully while backing into space
- Failure to center vehicle into space
- Failure to straighten wheels
- Failure to shift into "Park" and set parking brake



# Exiting Parallel Parking

Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting Parallel Parking



# Risky Behaviors Exiting Parallel Parking

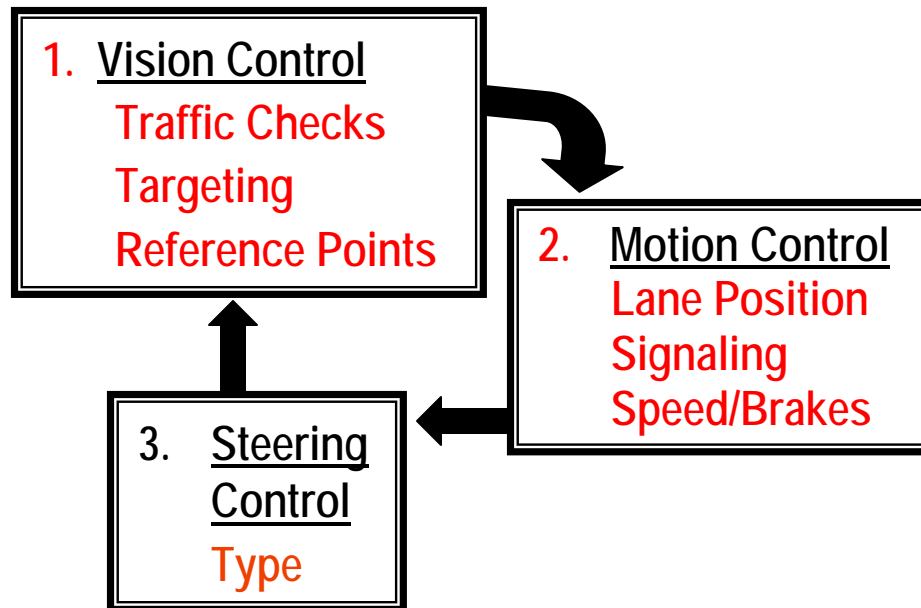
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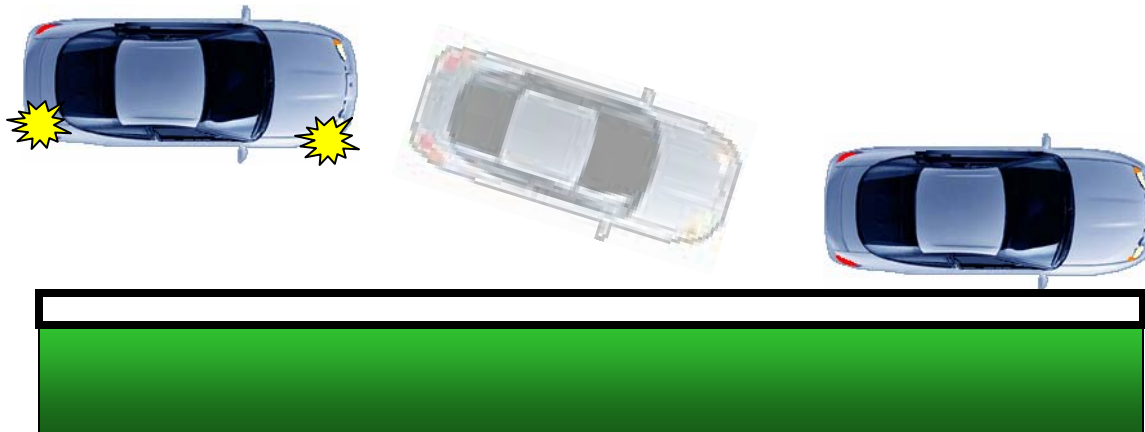
- Failure to signal
- Failure to check blind area
- Forgets to release parking brake
- Selects wrong gear or forgets to shift to proper gear
- Failure to clear vehicle parked in front or back
- Speed too fast



# Entering Curb/Street Parking



Describe the **Good Habits** for entering a Curb/Street Park



# Risky Behaviors Entering Curb/Street Parking

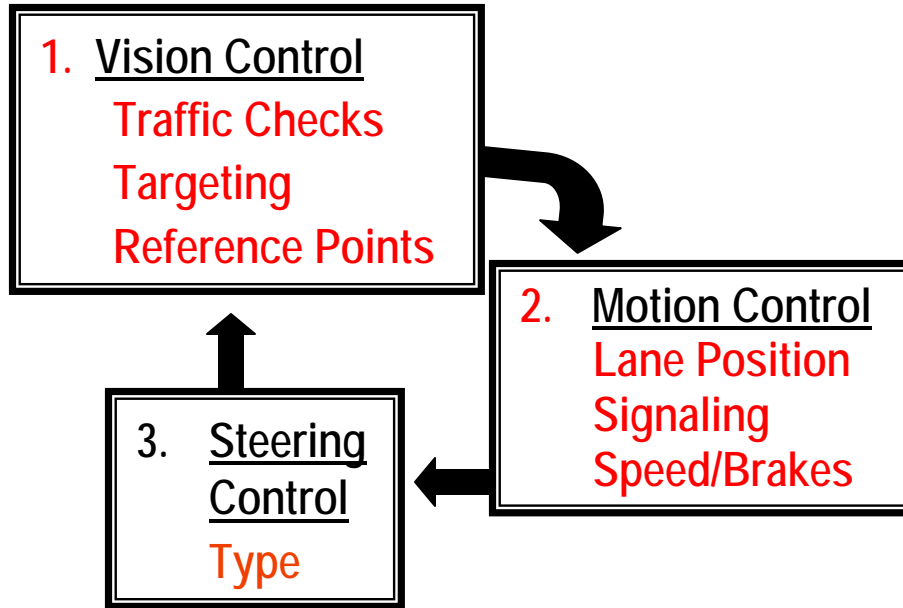
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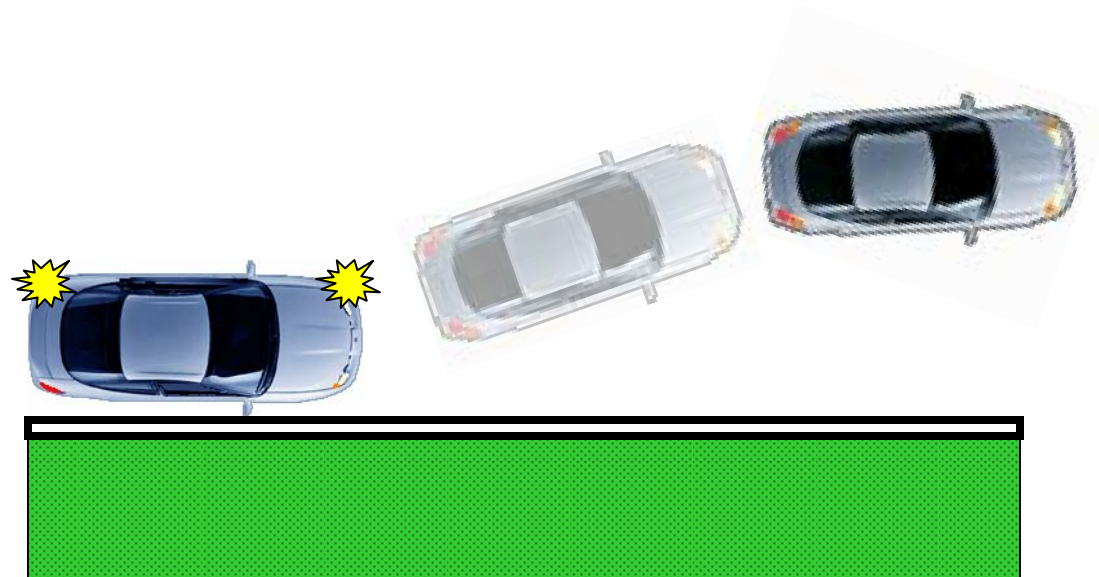
- Failure to see other traffic or pedestrians
- Failure to signal
- Failure to communicate intention to park
- Failure to judge sufficient space for the vehicle
- Parking too far from the curb line
- Failure to shift to park and set the parking brake



# Exiting Curb/Street Parking



Describe the  
**Good Habits** for  
exiting a  
Curb/Street Park



# Risky Behaviors Exiting Curb/Street Parking

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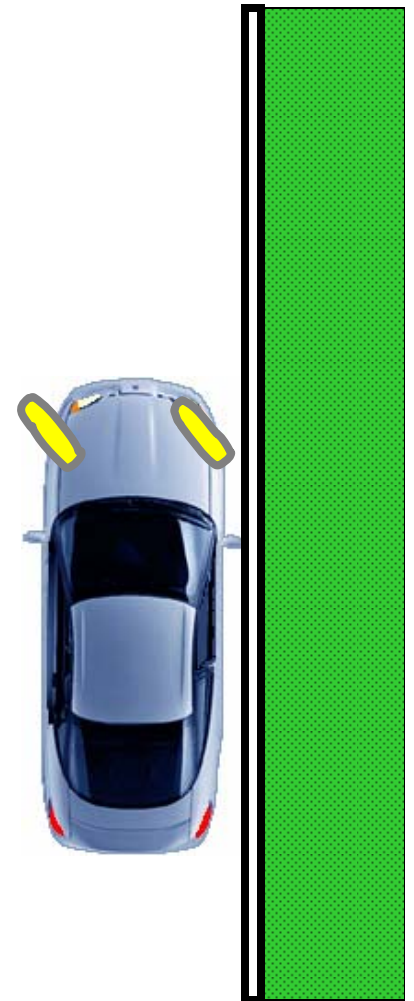
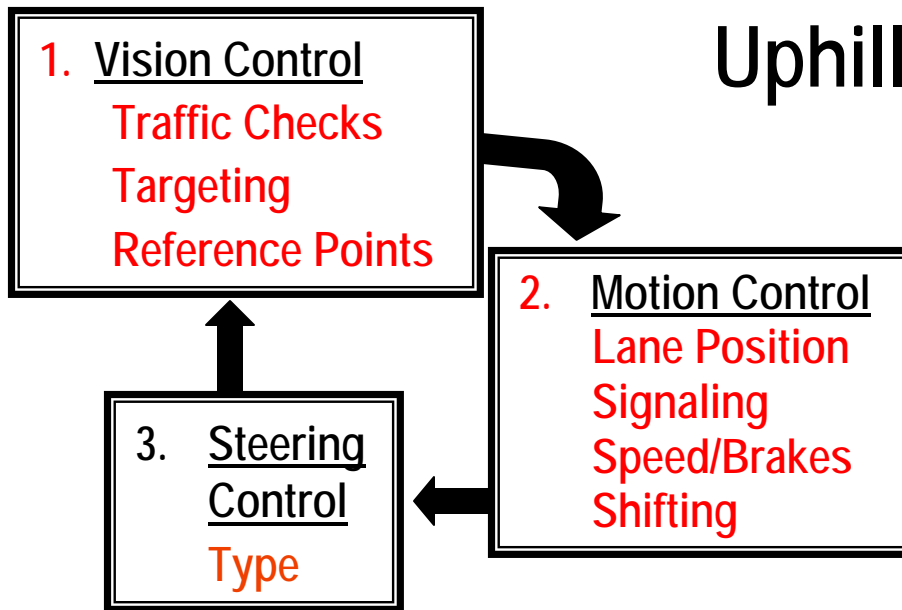


- Failure to check blind spot
- Failure to signal
- Failure to release parking brake
- Speed too slow or too fast
- Failure to clear bumper of the vehicle in front
- Failure to clear vehicle to the rear
- Failure to target into new POT
- Failure to check rear zone



# Parking Uphill with a Curb

Describe the **Good Habits** for Parking Uphill with a curb





# Risky Behaviors Parking Uphill with a Curb

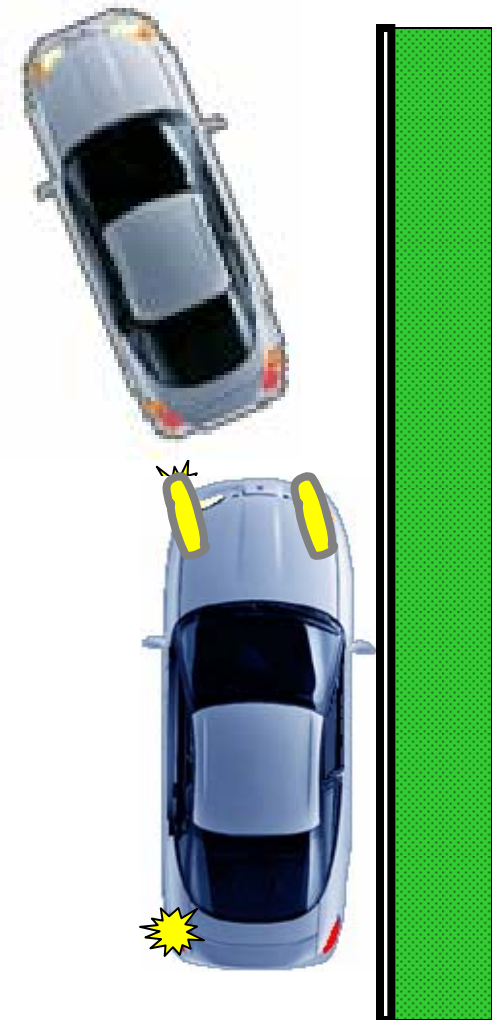
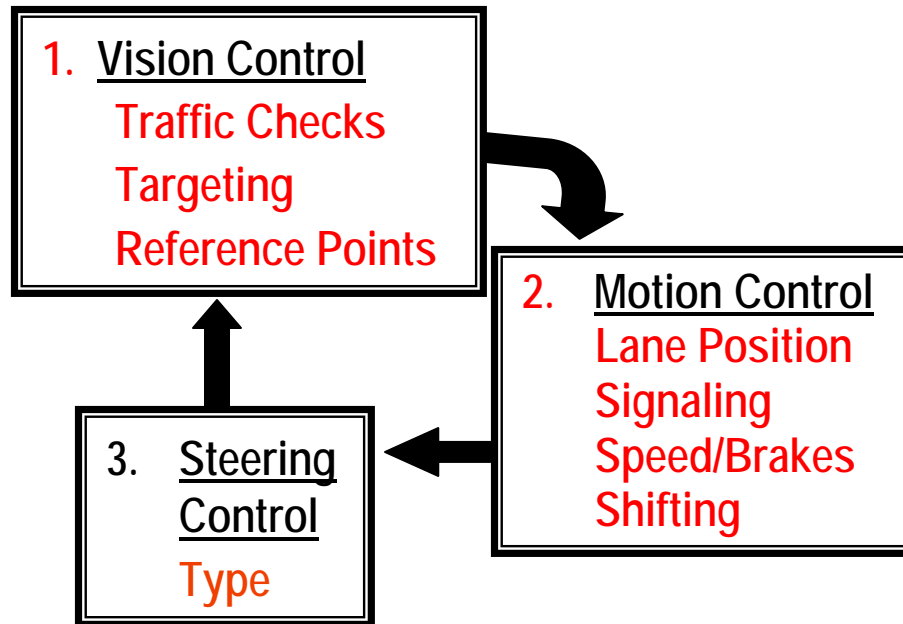


- Failure to signal
- Forgets to check for traffic and pedestrians
- Positions vehicle too far from the curb
- Turns wheels in wrong direction or fails to turn the wheels
- Turns wheel sharply left after stopping – “dry steer” is hard on tires
- Failure to shift to neutral and back into the curb
- Forgets to set the parking brake



# Exiting Uphill Parking with a Curb

Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting Uphill Parking with a curb



# Risky Behaviors Exiting Uphill Parking with a Curb

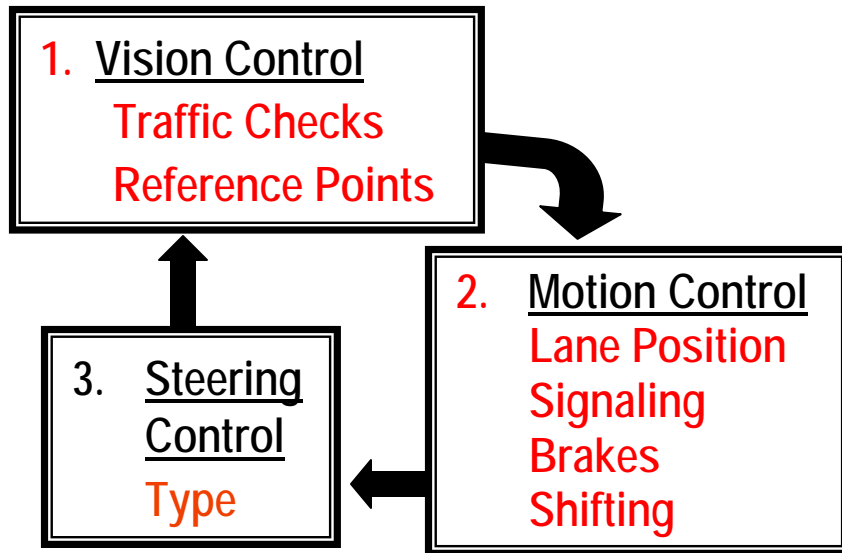
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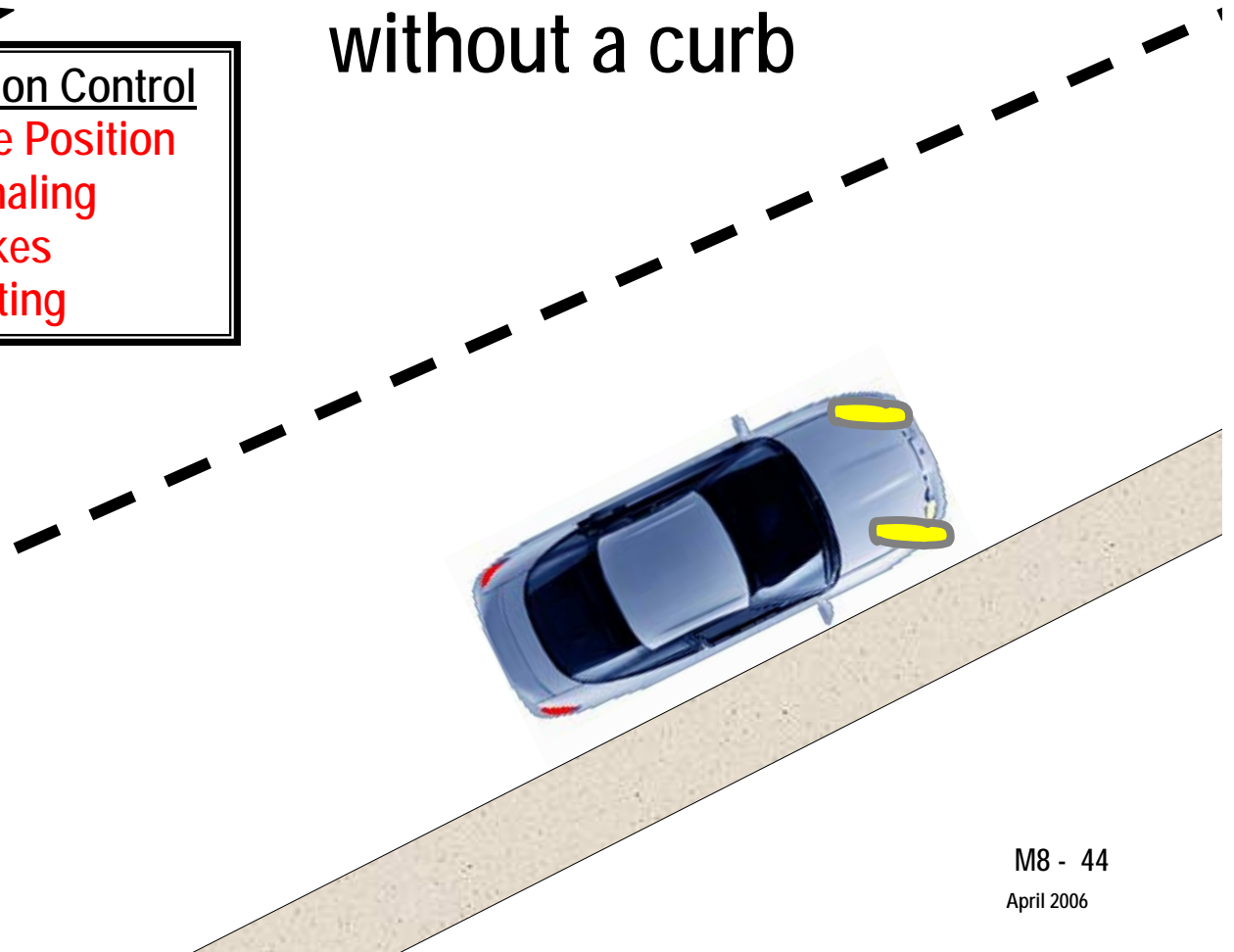
- Forgets wheels are turned into curb
- Failure to check for traffic and pedestrians
- Failure to signal
- Failure to keep the parking brake engaged until it is safe to release
- Forgets to use the foot brake
- Insufficient acceleration
- Failure to see open front and side zones
- Forgets to check rear zone



# Parking Uphill without a Curb



Describe the **Good Habits** for Parking Uphill without a curb



# Risky Behaviors Parking Uphill without a Curb

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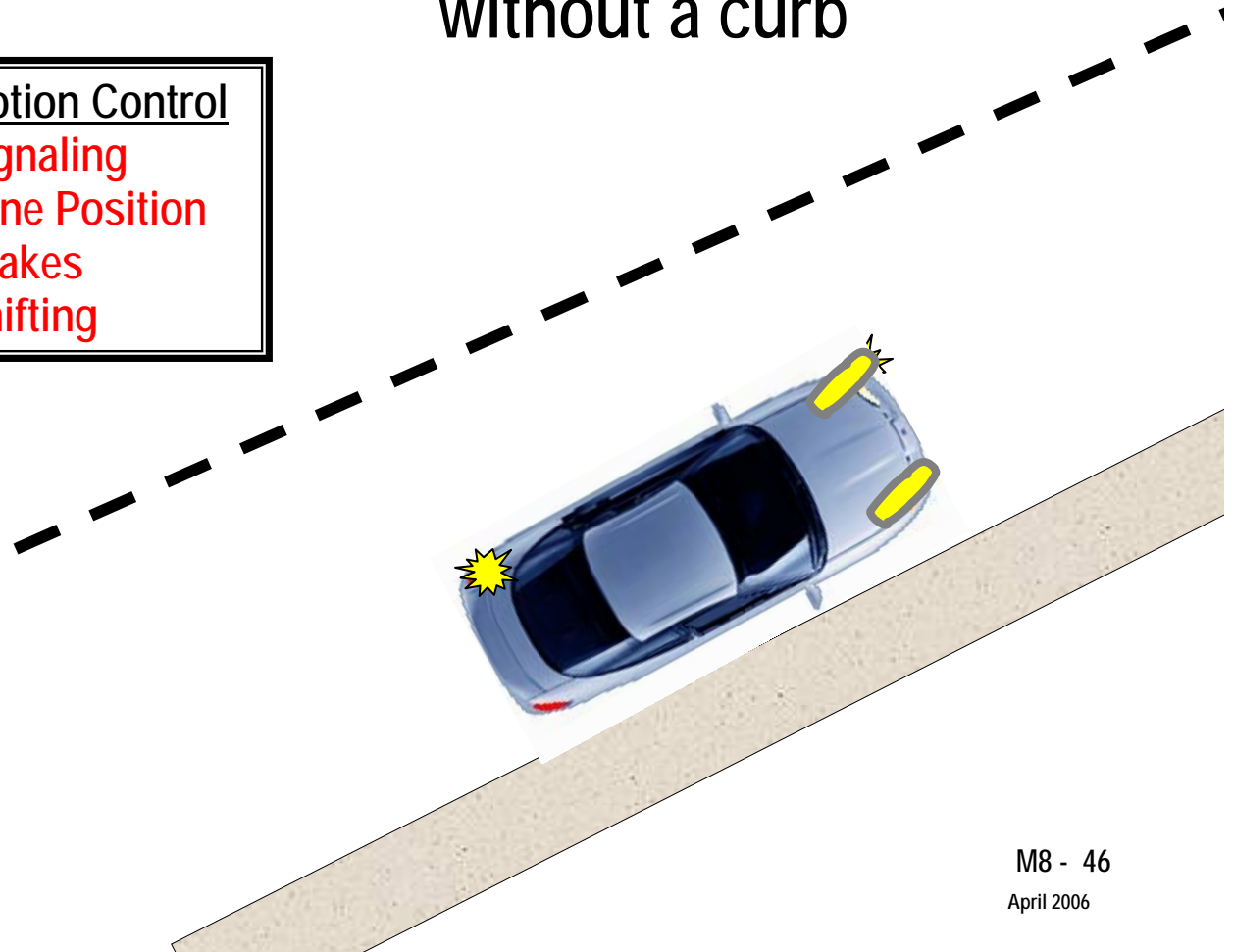
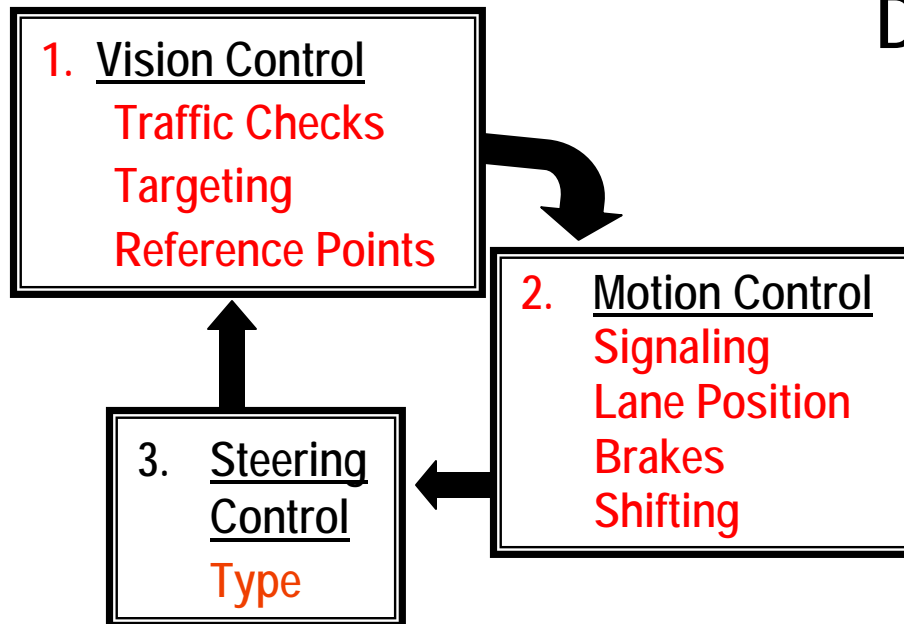


- Forgetting to check for traffic and pedestrians
- Forgetting to signal
- Leaving vehicle parked in lane of traffic
- Forgetting to turn wheels sharply right
- Forgetting to shift to "Park" and set the parking brake



# Exiting Parking Uphill without a Curb

Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting Parking Uphill without a curb



# Risky Behaviors Exiting Uphill Parking without a Curb

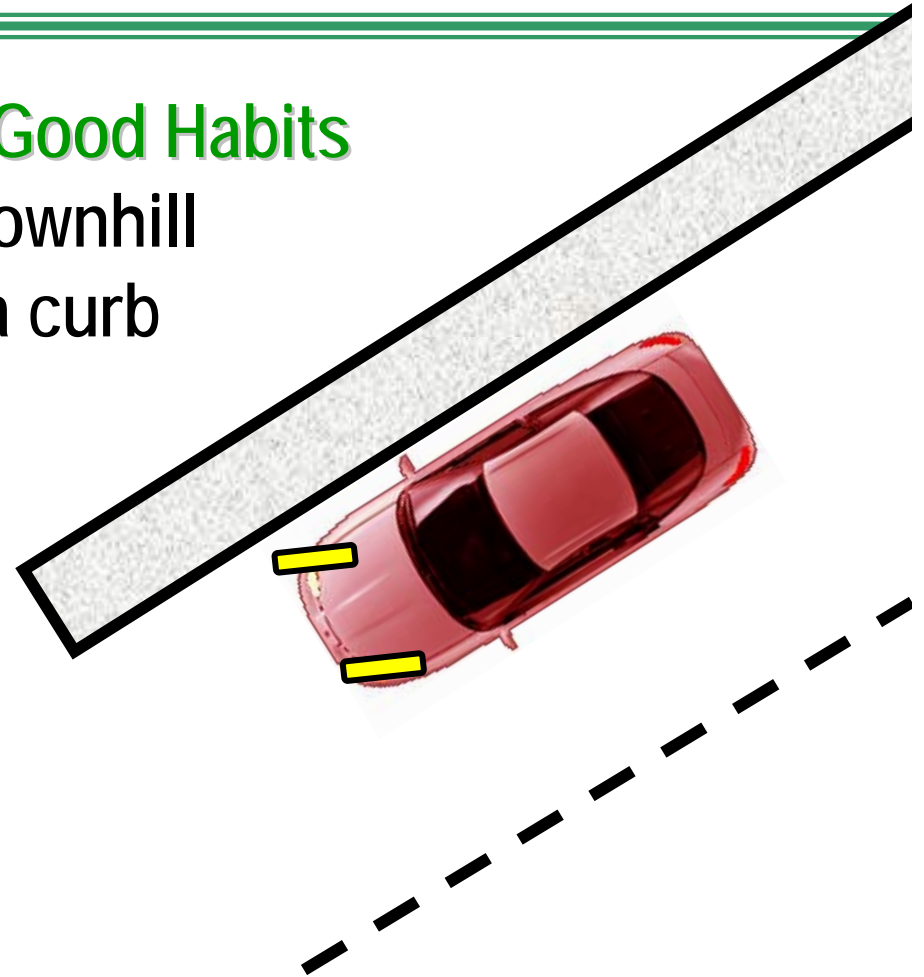
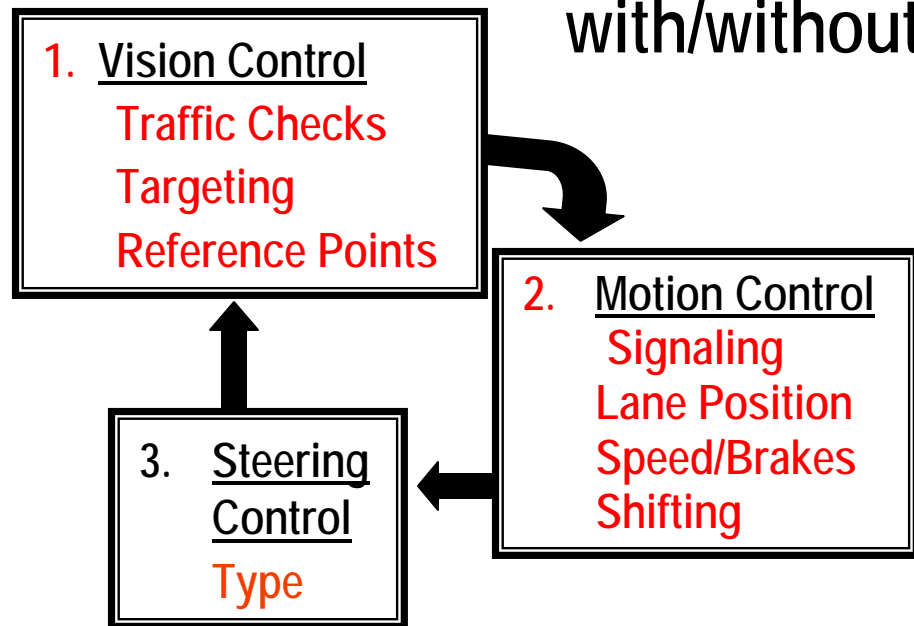


- Forgets wheels are turned
- Failure to check traffic and pedestrians
- Failure to signal
- Failure to shift into "Drive"
- Failure to identify open zones
- Releasing foot brake too soon
- Failure to release parking brake
- Insufficient acceleration
- Forgets to check rear zone



# Parking Downhill with/without a Curb

Describe the **Good Habits**  
for Parking Downhill  
with/without a curb





# Risky Behaviors Parking Downhill with/without a Curb

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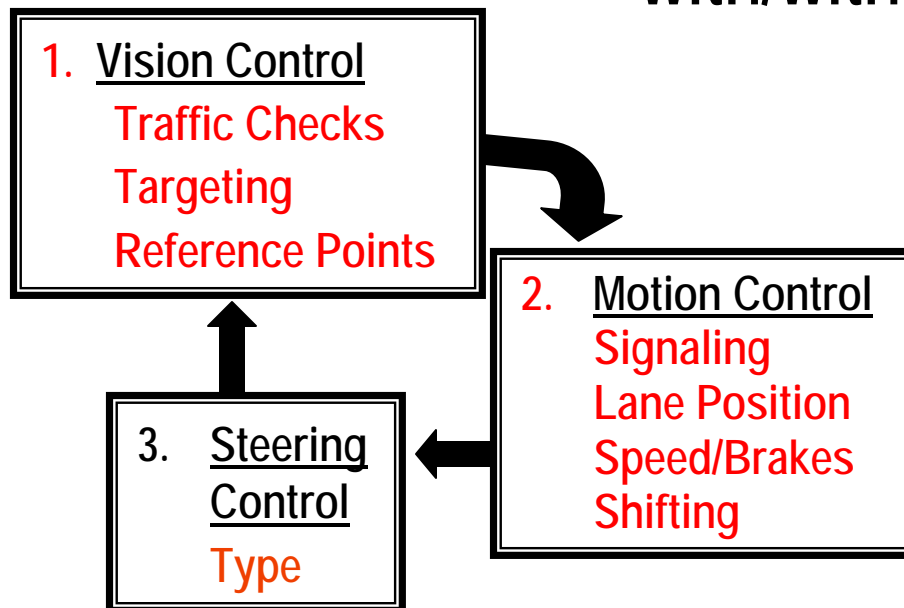


- Forgetting to signal
- Vehicle parked too far from the curb or edge of the road
- Wheels turned in the wrong direction
- Speed too fast
- Forgetting to set the parking brake



# Exiting Parking Downhill with/without a Curb

Describe the **Good Habits** for exiting Downhill Parking with/without a curb



# Risky Behaviors Exiting Downhill Parking with/without a Curb

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- Forgetting to check for pedestrians and traffic
- Forgetting to signal
- Shifting to the wrong gear
- Forgetting to straighten wheels before leaving parking space or dry steers
- Forgetting to check blind spot
- Speed too fast
- Forgetting to release parking brake at the appropriate time



# Parking Lot Strategies

- Obey speed limits
- Follow the directions of the signs and markings
- Do not drive diagonally across parking lot lane markings
- Be alert for pedestrians, bicyclists, roller-bladers and skateboarders
- Avoid tight parking spaces
- Avoid competing for a parking space



- Pull into the space far enough that the front and rear of the vehicle are not in the flow of traffic
- Position the vehicle properly in the space
- Secure parking brake
- Secure the vehicle, locking valuables in the trunk
- Search all directions when exiting the parking space
- Watch for drivers backing who may not see vehicles to the rear



# Parking Garage Strategies

- Watch for backup lights on other vehicles
- Observe and follow all signs
- Stay to the right
- Use headlights in dark garages
- Be aware of people in and around the garage



- When leaving the parking garage be aware - approach the vehicle with key in hand, look around and in the vehicle for unwanted passengers
- Drive slowly and watch for pedestrians



# Parking Garage Risky Behaviors

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- Failure to see other vehicles backing out
- Failure to be aware when approaching or leaving the vehicle
- Excessive speed
- Failure to recognize line of sight restrictions caused by the building or vehicles
- Forgetting to use headlight
- Failure to see signs, marking



# Airport Parking Strategies

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- Parking at most airport terminal buildings is usually not allowed, parking is for temporary drop off and pick up passengers only
- A vehicle may be towed if the vehicle is left unattended at a terminal
- Decide if you need short term, long term, or metered parking
- Place the parking receipt in a secure location inside the vehicle







# Handicapped Parking

The handicapped parking symbol indicates parking spaces are reserved for a handicapped person

Vehicles displaying this symbol on their license plate or a special card in or around the dashboard may park in handicapped spaces

Non-handicapped drivers are prohibited from parking in handicapped parking areas and may be fined (\$100) for violations

A handicapped person may park automobiles displaying the handicapped symbol in public parking spaces without paying and the time is unlimited

